

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STOCKH 03387 311445Z
ACTION INR-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EB-08 ISO-00 CIAE-00 MMO-01 /032 W
-----044836 010940Z /10

R 311415Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4599

C O N F I D E N T I A L STOCKHOLM 3387

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EWWT, EIND, ELTN, UR, SW
SUBJECT: TRANS-SIBERIAN CONTAINER SERVICE RATES

REF: A) STATE 217324, B) STATE A-2221

1. WE HAVE OBTAINED THE FOLLOWING BY DIRECT QUERY TO BERGTRANS AB: CONTAINERS OF ISO TYPE; 20 FOOT CONTAINERS (TOTAL ALLOWABLE CARGO WEIGHT OF 17,400 KILOS; AND 40 FOOT CONTAINERS (TOTAL ALLOWABLE CARGO WEIGHT 26,000 KILOS) ARE AVAILABLE. COST OF ONE 20 FOOT CONTAINER WITH A CARGO OF MACHINERY, METAL WORKING MACHINES, ETC., FROM NORRKOPING, SWEDEN TO YOKOHAMA OR TOKYO: \$1,750; ADDITIONAL HAULAGE FOR STOCKHOLM-NORRKOPING APPROXIMATELY \$230. OFFICIAL AT BERGTRANS DID NOT HAVE 40-FOOT QUOTES AVAILABLE AND EMBASSY DID NOT WISH TO PUSH. TRANSIT TIME: APPROXIMATELY 35 DAYS. FREQUENCY OF CONNECTING SAILINGS TO A) YOKOHAMA, NINE PER MONTH; B) TOKYO THREE OR FOUR PER MONTH.

2. OFFICE OF ECONOMIC RESEARCH SHOULD BE AWARE THAT FREIGHT RATES VARY IN A VARIETY OF WAYS DEPENDING ON THE CARGO. IN ORDER TO GET AN ACCURATE READING ONE MUST HAVE ACCURATE DETAILS CONCERNING PARTICULAR SHIPMENT, THEN PERUSE A VOLUME OF, SAY 100 PAGES TO COME UP WITH APPROPRIATE RATE. WE CHOSE TO ASK ABOUT MACHINE TOOLS ON THE PRETEXT THAT WE MIGHT BE THINKING OF SHIPPING COMMERCIAL EXHIBITIONS FROM STOCKHOLM TO JAPAN. WE
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ARE NOT RPT NOT PREPARED TO GO FURTHER IN SEEKING INFORMATION IN THIS WAY.

3. DEPARTMENT AND CIA MAY BE INTERESTED TO KNOW THAT WHEN WE ASKED FOR QUOTES ON PEKING/STOCKHOLM WE WERE TOLD THAT MOSCOW DOES NOT PERMIT SUCH QUOTES FOR "POLITICAL" REASONS. IN FACT, SAID THE BERGTRANS REP,

NO SHIPMENTS FOR CHINA ARE ALLOWED TO TRANSIT USSR.
NEEDLESS TO SAY, WE DID NOT PURSUE THE ISSUE.
KENNEDY-MINOTT

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NNN

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